(d) if so, what are the details of the orders with our shipyards and the capacity utilisation during the last five years; and

(e) the number of orders being given for the manufacture of deep sea fishing trawlers to the shipyards for the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No, Sir, However, Government propose to build up a fleet of 350-500 deep sea fishing vessels in the near future for bottom and mid-water trawling, purse-seining, squid jigging, long lining and pole and line fishing etc. through import as well as indigenous construction.

(c) and (d) As per information furnished by Ministry of Transport. 20 Indian Shipyards are registered for building 95 deep sea fishing vessels per annum. The cases for indigenous construction of 108 fishing vessels have been cleared by the Inter-Ministerial Screening Committee since the start of effective functioning of the scheme in 1983-84.

(e) No target has been fixed in this regard. However, during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan effective orders, with first stage payment, have been placed for 42 numbers of fishing trawlers.

Escape of a number of inmates from the Delhi Administration's Observation Home for Boys

1516. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA :
SHRI J. P. GOYAL :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the escape of a number of inmates of Delhi Administration's Observation Home for Boys recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any assessment of the working of the Observation Home, if so, what is the result thereof stating the measures contemplated by Government to improve its working ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 8 children in the age-group of 8 to 16 years escaped from the Observation Home for Boys, Delhi Gate, Delhi, on the night of 14-4-86 by twisting the iron bars of the main dormitory window and scaling the boundary wall.

(c) An enquiry was held into the circumstances of these escapes, to fix responsibility and to suggest preventive measures. The Report of the enquiry has been received and is under examination of Delhi Administration.

Steps are under way to strengthen the security to provide adequate staffing and to improve the working conditions of the Homes.

Cultivation of Keshri Dal

1517. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA :
SHRI J.P. GOYAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that consumption of Keshri dal which causes incurable and creeping paralysis of the legs though its cultivation has been prohibited, continues to be cultivated and distributed in a number of States in the country and that is being marked in the urban centres of Southern States; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to check the cultivation and distribution of kesri dal in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The sale of Kesri dal in any form has been prohibited under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955. All the States excepting Madhya Pradesh Bihar and West Bengal have issued Notifications banning its sale. The following steps have been taken to check the sale and cultivation of Kesri dal in any form :—

(1) The sale of Kesri dal and its products of mixture of Kesri dal with other dals or for use as an ingredient for preparation of any article of food is prohibited under the P.F.A. Rules 1955 (Rule 44 A).

(2) State Governments have been requested to ban the sale of Kesri dal. All States excepting the States of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal have banned its sale.

(3) The State Governments have been advised to educate the consumers on the harmful effects of Kesri dal for removing the neurotoxin before consumption by the methods available.

(4) The State Governments have been advised to cultivate low neurotoxin varieties of Kesri dal in the Kesri growing belts.

(5) Cultivation of Kesri dal is banned in Uttar Pradesh . The States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal have taken steps to replace its cultivation with other suitable pulse or oilseed crops.

Ship breaking yards at Alang, Gujarat

1518 : SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ship breaking yard at Alang near Bhavnagar in the industrially backward region of Saurashtra has been passing through a severe crisis ;

(b) if so, what are the details of supply of ships ; and

(c) the manner in which Government proposes to over-come the problems faced by the ship breaking yard at Alang ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.C PANT) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The ship breaking yard at Alang is not facing any crisis Adequate vessels are being provided for ship breaking to the registered units at Alang. The delivery of ships during the past 2 years has been as follows :—

	1984-85	1985-86
(1) No of vessels delivered	40	72
(2) Tonnage	208,575LDT	415,250LDT

Pig-Iron shortage faced by foundry units in Gujarat

1519. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India are aware of the fact that foundry units in Gujarat have been facing acute shortage of pig-iron, their basic raw material since April, 1985;